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AMENDMENT

In the claims:

Presented below are the claims, as amended, with changes entered and not marked.

B1 3. (Amended) The method of claim 2, wherein the tone sequence is a DTMF tone sequence transmitted to the port over the same transmission line as the incoming call.

B2 5. (Amended) The method of claim 4, wherein the digital interface comprises a digital backplane connection to a switch from which the incoming call was received.

B3 14. (Amended) An apparatus comprising:
2 an automated attendant port to receive an incoming call from a telephone switch;
3 an automated attendant port to receive a call handle associated with the incoming
4 call from the telephone switch;
5 a memory containing caller information associated with call handles; and
6 a processor to apply the call handle to retrieve caller information and use the
7 retrieved caller information to handle the call if caller information associated with the call
8 handle is found.

B4 19. (Amended) The method of claim 18, wherein the tone sequence is a
2 DTMF tone sequence transmitted to the call handling system port over the same
3 transmission line as the incoming call.

B5 21. (Amended) The method of claim 20, wherein the digital interface
2 comprises a digital backplane connection to the call handling system.

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25. (Amended) An apparatus comprising:
1 a port to receive an incoming call;
2 a call handle generator to generate a call handle for the incoming call as a set of
3 in-band signaling tones;
4 a switching network to route the incoming call from the receiving port to a port of
5 a call handling system; and
6 an interface to send the generated call handle as in-band signaling tones to the
7 port of the call handling system in association with the routed call.

1